

We claim:

1. A spring clip connector assembly comprising:
5 a base product with an opening, and
 a spring clip connector including a housing having a
front wall with an opening for receiving a wire therethrough, a
movable tab located in the housing, and a conductor secured to
the housing and having a contact positioned to engage a wire
10 inserted through the opening in the front wall, and a spring
between the housing and the tab,

 wherein one of the base product and the housing
includes a resilient member and the other of the base product
and the housing includes a mounting surface, the resilient
15 member movable between a first position that permits insertion
of the housing through the opening of the faceplate and a second
position that engages the at least one mounting surface and
blocks removal of the housing from the opening of the faceplate,
and

20 wherein the tab is movable between a closed position
such that a portion of the tab is adjacent to the contact to
secure a wire inserted through the opening in the front wall
against the contact and an open position such that the portion
is farther away from the contact than in the closed position to
25 release the wire, the spring biasing the tab toward the closed
position.

2. The connector assembly according to claim 1 wherein
the base product is a faceplate.

30 3. The connector assembly according to claim 1 wherein
the base product has a plurality of openings.

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4. The connector assembly according to claim 1 wherein
the base product has a top mounting surface and a bottom
5 mounting surface.

5. The connector according to claim 1 wherein the latch
is a cantilever latch.

10 6. The connector according to claim 1 wherein the front
wall has a circular opening.

7. The connector according to claim 1 wherein the front
wall has a centrally-disposed opening.

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8. The connector according to claim 1 wherein the front
wall has a circular centrally-disposed opening.

9. The connector according to claim 1 wherein the contact
20 is adjacent to the opening in the front wall.

10. The connector according to claim 1 wherein the contact
partially blocks the opening in the front wall.

25 11. The connector according to claim 1 wherein the housing
has a single opening.

12. The connector assembly according to claim 1 wherein
the connector forms a snap-lock connection with the faceplate.

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13. The connector assembly according to claim 1 wherein
the front wall has two openings.

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14. The connector assembly according to claim 1 wherein the housing includes a resilient member.

5 15. The connector assembly according to claim 1 wherein the base product includes at least one mounting surface.

10 16. The connector assembly according to claim 1 wherein a portion of the tab partially blocks the opening in the front wall.

17. A spring clip connector assembly comprising:
a base product having at least two openings,
15 a first spring clip connector located in a first of the at least two openings in the base product, the spring clip connector comprising

a housing having a front wall with an opening for receiving a wire therethrough, a movable tab located in the
20 housing, and a conductor secured to the housing and having a contact positioned to engage a wire inserted through the opening in the front wall, and a spring between the housing and the tab,

wherein one of the base product and the housing includes a resilient member and the other of the base product
25 and the housing includes a mounting surface, the resilient member movable between a first position that permits insertion of the housing through the opening of the faceplate and a second position that engages the at least one mounting surface and blocks removal of the housing from the opening of the faceplate,
30 and

wherein the tab is movable between a closed position such that a portion of the tab is adjacent to the contact to secure a wire inserted through the opening in the front wall against the contact and an open position such that the portion

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is farther away from the contact than in the closed position to
release the wire, the spring biasing the tab toward the closed
5 position and

 a second spring clip connector located in a second of
the at least two openings in the base product comprising

 a housing having a front wall with an opening for
receiving a wire therethrough, a movable tab located in the
10 housing, and a conductor secured to the housing and having a
contact positioned to engage a wire inserted through the opening
in the front wall, and a spring between the housing and the tab,

 wherein one of the base product and the housing
includes a resilient member and the other of the base product
15 and the housing includes a mounting surface, the resilient
member movable between a first position that permits insertion
of the housing through the opening of the faceplate and a second
position that engages the at least one mounting surface and
blocks removal of the housing from the opening of the faceplate,
20 and

 wherein the tab is movable between a closed position
such that a portion of the tab is adjacent to the contact to
secure a wire inserted through the opening in the front wall
against the contact and an open position such that the portion
25 is farther away from the contact than in the closed position to
release the wire, the spring biasing the tab toward the closed
position.

18. A method for securing a spring clip connector to a
30 faceplate having at least one opening, a bottom mounting
structure and a top mounting surface, the spring clip comprising

 a housing having first and second side walls that are
parallel and spaced apart and a front wall between the first and

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second side walls, the front wall having a single opening for receiving a wire therethrough,

5 a bottom wall and a top wall that are spaced apart
 a cantilever latch attached to the top wall including at least one ramp piece having a vertical bearing surface that secures the connector to a faceplate,

 at least one ramp piece attached to the bottom wall
10 having a vertical bearing surface that secures the connector to the faceplate

 a conductor secured to the housing and having a leading edge adjacent to the opening in the front wall,

 a tab movably coupled to the housing having a closed
15 position wherein a ledge of the tab is adjacent to the leading edge of the conductor and having an open position wherein the ledge is farther away from the leading edge of the conductor than in the closed position, and

 a spring between the housing and the tab that biases
20 the tab toward the closed position, the method comprising:

 angling the connector into the opening of the faceplate so that the at least one ramp piece attached to the bottom wall slides over the bottom mounting structure,

 rotating the connector so that that top mounting
25 surface deflects the cantilever latch, allowing the at least one ramp piece attached to the cantilever latch to slide under the top mounting surface and engage the vertical bearing surface.

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